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Effective Date: July 2011	Revision Date: November 2011
Amends/Supercedes:	Approved by: Chief Kevin Higdon
Meets Accreditation Standard:30.9	

Section 1200.50 Foot Pursuits

Policy

It shall be the policy of the Shively Police Department that, should an officer engage in a foot pursuit, the officer shall make a continuous risk assessment of the situation. The officer must evaluate the risk involved and decide if continuing the pursuit is justified.

PROCEDURE

The pursuing officer should consider officer safety factors when determining whether to initiate, or continue, a foot pursuit. These factors may include, but are not limited to:

- Whether the suspect is armed
- The seriousness of the offense
- The likelihood of a successful apprehension
- The availability of assistance/backup
- Environmental factors (e.g. weather conditions or darkness)
- The officer's familiarity with the geographic area of the pursuit
- Whether the officer has a portable radio to communicate with MetroSafe
- Number of suspects involved

The pursuing officer may terminate a foot pursuit, if at any time they believe that continuing the pursuit is unsafe. The officer shall not continue a foot pursuit if he/she has lost his/her firearm.

In situations where an officer is in his/her vehicle immediately before a foot pursuit is initiated, he/she shall make a concerted effort to secure his/her police vehicle before initiating a foot pursuit. At a minimum, the officer shall place the vehicle in Park and remove the ignition key. In situations where an officer is out of the vehicle when a foot pursuit is initiated (e.g. a traffic stop where the driver flees), the officer shall secure his/her vehicle, if practical.

Communications Procedure

Once an officer decides to engage in a foot pursuit, the officer shall, as soon as practical, provide the following information by radio:

- The unit number
- The location (must provide updates, as often as practical)
- The direction of travel
- The description and/or name of the suspect
- Whether the suspect is armed
- The offense that the suspect has committed, if known
- A coordination with other officers to establish a perimeter for containment

Failure to provide this information to dispatch may result in the termination of the pursuit by a commanding officer.

ASSISTING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

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Assisting officers shall immediately attempt to contain the pursued suspect. The assisting officers shall coordinate with the pursuing officer and attempt to establish a perimeter for the containment of the suspect.

SUPERVISOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Once notified of a pursuit, the affected officer's supervisor shall monitor the pursuit. The supervisor may order the termination of a foot pursuit if he/she establishes that the risks created by continuing the foot pursuit outweigh the necessity for the immediate apprehension of the suspect.